

August 28, 1974

Dear Tom:

I will be coming to Washington the week of September 9 in connection with my work for the Commission, and I would like to interview a number of people at Central Intelligence Agency. I would hope that the interviews could be set up for the afternoon of September 9 and throughout the day on September 10. The morning of September 11 is possible, but I would hope that we could avoid that.

I would like to meet with George Carver to solicit his views on the operation of the NIO system, and then speak to [redacted] on this subject. I am particularly interested in their views on the strengths and weaknesses of this system in relation to the former system, a description of their working methods, their relations to other parts of CIA, other intelligence agencies, and the policymakers, and how they see the system evolving.

I want to talk to the head of the IC staff to learn more about their function, working methods and relationships--both within CIA and with other agencies--and how these are evolving, and to discuss both the potential and the limitations for greater coordination of the intelligence community. [redacted]

[redacted] has had considerable experience in these areas, and his views should be very helpful.

I would also like to meet with Richard Lehman, Morris Ernst, and E. Henry Knoche--in no particular order--to have general discussions on how the work of their offices has evolved in recent years. I was quite familiar with these offices at one time, but need to be brought up to date on their structures, the focus of their efforts, and their relationships with other offices in the government doing work of a similar nature.

Finally, I want to discuss with Ed Proctor the relationship of the NIO system to the DDI, the relationships of the DDI to DIA and INR, and the broad subject of the relationship of intelligence production and policymaking. Naturally, I will want to get the views of all the people I interview on this last subject.

I hope to be able to gain the information I need for both of my papers through a single interview with the people listed, although I may need to approach one or two of them again. I hope that you will be able to arrange this without undue trouble.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas Reckford
Commission on the Organization
of the Government for Foreign Policy
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